

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H.R. 1973
OFFERED BY MR. BLUMENAUER

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

2 This Act may be cited as the “Senator Paul Simon
3 Water for the Poor Act of 2005”.

4 SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

5 Congress makes the following findings:

6 (1) Water-related diseases are a human trag-
7 edy, killing up to five million people annually, pre-
8 venting millions of people from leading healthy lives,
9 and undermining development efforts.

10 (2) A child dies an average of every 15 seconds
11 because of lack of access to safe water and adequate
12 sanitation.

13 (3) In the poorest countries in the world, one
14 out of five children dies from a preventable, water-
15 related disease.

16 (4) Lack of access to safe drinking water, inad-
17 equate sanitation, and poor hygiene practices are di-
18 rectly responsible for the vast majority of diarrheal



1 diseases which kill over two million children each
2 year.

3 (5) At any given time, half of all people in the
4 developing world are suffering from one or more of
5 the main diseases associated with inadequate provi-
6 sion of water supply and sanitation services.

7 (6) Over 1.1 billion people, one in every six peo-
8 ple in the world, lack access to safe drinking water.

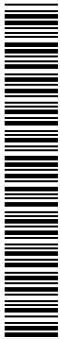
9 (7) Nearly 2.6 billion people, two in every five
10 people in the world, lack access to basic sanitation
11 services.

12 (8) Half of all schools in the world do not have
13 access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation.

14 (9) Over the past 20 years, two billion people
15 have gained access to safe drinking water and 600
16 million people have gained access to basic sanitation
17 services.

18 (10) Access to safe water and sanitation and
19 improved hygiene are significant factors in control-
20 ling the spread of disease in the developing world
21 and positively affecting worker productivity and eco-
22 nomic development.

23 (11) Increasing access to safe water and sanita-
24 tion advances efforts toward other development ob-
25 jectives, such as fighting poverty and hunger, pro-



1 moting primary education and gender equality, re-
2 ducing child mortality, promoting environmental sta-
3 bility, improving the lives of slum dwellers, and
4 strengthening national security.

5 (12) Providing safe supplies of water and sani-
6 tation and hygiene improvements would save millions
7 of lives by reducing the prevalence of water-borne
8 diseases, water-based diseases, water-privation dis-
9 eases, and water-related vector diseases.

10 (13) Because women and girls in developing
11 countries are often the carriers of water, lack of ac-
12 cess to safe water and sanitation disproportionately
13 affects women and limits women's opportunities at
14 education, livelihood, and financial independence.

15 (14) Between 20 percent and 50 percent of ex-
16 isting water systems in developing countries are not
17 operating or are operating poorly.

18 (15) In developing world water delivery sys-
19 tems, an average of 50 percent of all water is lost
20 before it gets to the end-user.

21 (16) Every \$1 invested in safe water and sani-
22 tation would yield an economic return of between \$3
23 and \$34, depending on the region.

24 (17) Developing sustainable financing mecha-
25 nisms, such as pooling mechanisms and revolving



1 funds, is necessary for the long-term viability of im-
2 proved water and sanitation services.

3 (18) The annual level of investment needed to
4 meet the water and sanitation needs of developing
5 countries far exceeds the amount of Official Develop-
6 ment Assistance (ODA) and spending by govern-
7 ments of developing countries, so facilitating and at-
8 tracting greater public and private investment is es-
9 sential.

10 (19) Meeting the water and sanitation needs of
11 the lowest-income developing countries will require
12 an increase in the resources available as grants from
13 donor countries.

14 (20) The long-term sustainability of improved
15 water and sanitation services can be advanced by
16 promoting community level action and engagement
17 with civil society.

18 (21) Target 10 of the United Nations Millen-
19 nium Development Goals is to reduce by half the
20 proportion of people without sustainable access to
21 safe drinking water by 2015.

22 (22) The participants in the 2002 World Sum-
23 mit on Sustainable Development, held in Johannes-
24 burg, South Africa, including the United States,
25 agreed to the Plan of Implementation of the World



1 Summit on Sustainable Development which included
2 an agreement to work to reduce by one-half “the
3 proportion of people who are unable to reach or af-
4 ford safe drinking water,” and “the proportion of
5 people without access to basic sanitation” by 2015.

6 (23) At the World Summit on Sustainable De-
7 velopment, the United States announced the Water
8 for the Poor Initiative, committing \$970 million for
9 fiscal years 2003 through 2005 to improve sustain-
10 able management of fresh water resources and accel-
11 erate and expand international efforts to achieve the
12 goal of cutting in half by 2015 the proportion of
13 people who are unable to reach or to afford safe
14 drinking water.

15 (24) United Nations General Assembly Resolu-
16 tion 58/217 (February 9, 2004) proclaimed “the pe-
17 riod from 2005 to 2015 the International Decade for
18 Action, ‘Water for Life’, to commence on World
19 Water Day, 22 March 2005” for the purpose of in-
20 creasing the focus of the international community on
21 water-related issues at all levels and on the imple-
22 mentation of water-related programs and projects.

23 (25) Around the world, 263 river basins are
24 shared by two or more countries, and many more



1 basins and watersheds cross political or ethnic
2 boundaries.

3 (26) Water scarcity can contribute to insecurity
4 and conflict on subnational, national, and inter-
5 national levels, thus endangering the national secu-
6 rity of the United States.

7 (27) Opportunities to manage water problems
8 can be leveraged in ways to build confidence, trust,
9 and peace between parties in conflict.

10 (28) Cooperative water management can help
11 resolve conflicts caused by other problems and is
12 often a crucial component in resolving such conflicts.

13 (29) Cooperative water management can help
14 countries recover from conflict and, by promoting
15 dialogue and cooperation among former parties in
16 conflict, can help prevent the reemergence of con-
17 flict.

18 **SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY.**

19 It is the policy of the United States—

20 (1) to increase the percentage of water and
21 sanitation assistance targeted toward countries des-
22 ignated as high priority countries under section 6(f)
23 of this Act;

24 (2) to ensure that water and sanitation assist-
25 ance reflect an appropriate balance of grants, loans,



1 contracts, investment insurance, loan guarantees,
2 and other assistance to further ensure affordability
3 and equity in the provision of access to safe water
4 and sanitation for the very poor;

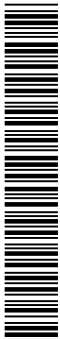
5 (3) to ensure that the targeting of water and
6 sanitation assistance reflect an appropriate balance
7 between urban, periurban, and rural areas to meet
8 the purposes of assistance described in section 135
9 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as added by
10 section 5(a) of this Act;

11 (4) to ensure that forms of water and sanita-
12 tion assistance provided reflect the level of existing
13 resources and markets for investment in water and
14 sanitation within recipient countries;

15 (5) to ensure that water and sanitation assist-
16 ance, to the extent possible, supports the poverty re-
17 duction strategies of recipient countries and, when
18 appropriate, encourages the inclusion of water and
19 sanitation within such poverty reduction strategies;

20 (6) to promote country and local ownership of
21 safe water and sanitation programs, to the extent
22 appropriate;

23 (7) to promote community-based approaches in
24 the provision of affordable and equitable access to



1 safe water and sanitation, including the involvement
2 of civil society;

3 (8) to mobilize and leverage the financial and
4 technical capacity of businesses, governments, non-
5 governmental organizations, and civil society in the
6 form of public-private alliances;

7 (9) to encourage reforms and increase the ca-
8 pacity of foreign governments to formulate and im-
9 plement policies that expand access to safe water
10 and sanitation in an affordable, equitable, and sus-
11 tainable manner, including integrated strategic plan-
12 ning; and

13 (10) to protect the supply and availability of
14 safe water through sound environmental manage-
15 ment, including preventing the destruction and deg-
16 radation of ecosystems and watersheds.

17 **SEC. 4. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

18 It is the sense of Congress that—

19 (1) in order to make the most effective use of
20 amounts of Official Development Assistance for
21 water and sanitation and avoid waste and duplica-
22 tion, the United States should seek to establish inno-
23 vative international coordination mechanisms based
24 on best practices in other development sectors; and



1 (2) the United States should greatly increase
2 the amount of Official Development Assistance made
3 available to carry out section 135 of the Foreign As-
4 sistance Act of 1961, as added by section 5(a) of
5 this Act.

6 **SEC. 5. ASSISTANCE TO PROVIDE SAFE WATER AND SANI-**
7 **TATION.**

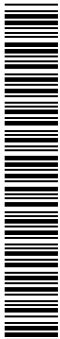
8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 1 of part I of the Foreign
9 Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151 et seq.) is amend-
10 ed by adding at the end the following new section:

11 **“SEC. 135. ASSISTANCE TO PROVIDE SAFE WATER AND**
12 **SANITATION.**

13 “(a) PURPOSES.—The purposes of assistance author-
14 ized by this section are—

15 “(1) to promote good health, economic develop-
16 ment, poverty reduction, women’s empowerment,
17 conflict prevention, and environmental sustainability
18 by providing assistance to expand access to safe
19 water and sanitation, promoting integrated water re-
20 source management, and improving hygiene for peo-
21 ple around the world;

22 “(2) to seek to reduce by one-half from the
23 baseline year 1990 the proportion of people who are
24 unable to reach or afford safe drinking water and



1 the proportion of people without access to basic sani-
2 tation by 2015;

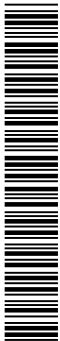
3 “(3) to focus water and sanitation assistance
4 toward the countries, locales, and people with the
5 greatest need;

6 “(4) to promote affordability and equity in the
7 provision of access to safe water and sanitation for
8 the very poor, women, and other vulnerable popu-
9 lations;

10 “(5) to improve water efficiency through water
11 demand management and reduction of unaccounted-
12 for water;

13 “(6) to promote long-term sustainability in the
14 affordable and equitable provision of access to safe
15 water and sanitation through the creation of innova-
16 tive financing mechanisms such as national revolving
17 funds, and by strengthening the capacity of recipient
18 governments and communities to formulate and im-
19 plement policies that expand access to safe water
20 and sanitation in a sustainable fashion, including in-
21 tegrated planning;

22 “(7) to secure the greatest amount of resources
23 possible, encourage private investment in water and
24 sanitation infrastructure and services, particularly in
25 lower middle-income countries, without creating



1 unsustainable debt for low-income countries or
2 unaffordable water and sanitation costs for the very
3 poor; and

4 “(8) to promote the capacity of recipient gov-
5 ernments to provide affordable, equitable, and sus-
6 tainable access to safe water and sanitation.

7 “(b) AUTHORIZATION.—To carry out the purposes of
8 subsection (a), the President is authorized to furnish as-
9 sistance for programs in developing countries to provide
10 affordable and equitable access to safe water and sanita-
11 tion.

12 “(c) ACTIVITIES SUPPORTED.—Assistance provided
13 under subsection (b) shall, to the maximum extent prac-
14 ticable, be used to—

15 “(1) expand affordable and equitable access to
16 safe water and sanitation for underserved popu-
17 lations;

18 “(2) support the design, construction, mainte-
19 nance, upkeep, repair, and operation of water deliv-
20 ery and sanitation systems;

21 “(3) improve the safety and reliability of water
22 supplies, including environmental management; and

23 “(4) improve the capacity of recipient govern-
24 ments and local communities, including capacity-



1 building programs for improved water resource man-
2 agement.

3 “(d) LOCAL CURRENCY.—The President may use
4 payments made in local currencies under an agreement
5 made under title I of the Agricultural Trade Development
6 and Assistance Act of 1954 (7 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) to
7 provide assistance under this section.”.

8 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 104(c) of
9 the Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act
10 of 1954 (7 U.S.C. 1704(c)) is amended by adding at the
11 end the following new paragraph:

12 “(9) SAFE WATER AND SANITATION.—To pro-
13 vide assistance under section 135 of the Foreign As-
14 sistance Act of 1961 to promote good health, eco-
15 nomic development, poverty reduction, women’s em-
16 powerment, conflict prevention, and environmental
17 sustainability by increasing affordable and equitable
18 access to safe water and sanitation.”.

19 **SEC. 6. SAFE WATER AND SANITATION STRATEGY.**

20 (a) STRATEGY.—The President, acting through the
21 Secretary of State, shall develop a strategy to further the
22 United States foreign assistance objective to provide af-
23 fordable and equitable access to safe water and sanitation
24 in developing countries, as described in section 135 of the



1 Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as added by section 5(a)
2 of this Act.

3 (b) CONSULTATION.—The strategy required by sub-
4 section (a) shall be developed in consultation with the Ad-
5 ministrator of the United States Agency for International
6 Development, the heads of other appropriate Federal de-
7 partments and agencies, international organizations, inter-
8 national financial institutions, recipient governments,
9 United States and international nongovernmental organi-
10 zations, indigenous civil society, and other appropriate en-
11 tities.

12 (c) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Secretary of State, act-
13 ing through the Administrator of the United States Agen-
14 cy for International Development, shall implement the
15 strategy required by subsection (a). The strategy may also
16 be implemented in part by other Federal departments and
17 agencies, as appropriate.

18 (d) CONSISTENT WITH SAFE WATER AND SANITA-
19 TION POLICY.—The strategy required by subsection (a)
20 shall be consistent with the policy stated in section 3 of
21 this Act.

22 (e) CONTENT.—The strategy required by subsection
23 (a) shall include—

24 (1) an assessment of the activities that have
25 been carried out, or that are planned to be carried



1 out, by all appropriate Federal departments and
2 agencies to improve affordable and equitable access
3 to safe water and sanitation in all countries that re-
4 ceive assistance from the United States;

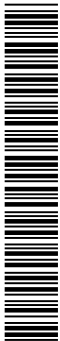
5 (2) specific and measurable goals, benchmarks,
6 and timetables to achieve the objective described in
7 subsection (a);

8 (3) an assessment of the level of funding and
9 other assistance for United States water and sanita-
10 tion programs needed each year to achieve the goals,
11 benchmarks, and timetables described in paragraph
12 (2);

13 (4) methods to coordinate and integrate United
14 States water and sanitation assistance programs
15 with other United States development assistance
16 programs to achieve the objective described in sub-
17 section (a);

18 (5) methods to better coordinate United States
19 water and sanitation assistance programs with pro-
20 grams of other donor countries and entities to
21 achieve the objective described in subsection (a); and

22 (6) an assessment of the commitment of gov-
23 ernments of countries that receive assistance under
24 section 135 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961,
25 as added by section 5(a) of this Act, to policies or



1 policy reforms that support affordable and equitable
2 access by the people of such countries to safe water
3 and sanitation.

4 (f) DESIGNATION OF HIGH PRIORITY COUNTRIES.—

5 The strategy required by subsection (a) shall further in-
6 clude the designation of high priority countries for assist-
7 ance under section 135 of the Foreign Assistance Act of
8 1961, as added by section 5(a) of this Act. This designa-
9 tion shall be made on the basis of—

10 (1) countries in which the need for increased
11 access to safe water and sanitation is greatest; and

12 (2) countries in which assistance under such
13 section can be expected to make the greatest dif-
14 ference in promoting good health, economic develop-
15 ment, poverty reduction, women's empowerment,
16 conflict prevention, and environmental sustainability.

17 (g) REPORTS.—

18 (1) INITIAL REPORT.—Not later than 180 days
19 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-
20 retary of State shall submit to the appropriate con-
21 gressional committees a report that describes the
22 strategy required by subsection (a).

23 (2) SUBSEQUENT REPORTS.—

24 (A) IN GENERAL.—Not less than once
25 every year after the submission of the initial re-



1 port under paragraph (1) until 2015, the Sec-
2 retary of State shall submit to the appropriate
3 congressional committees a report on the status
4 of the implementation of the strategy, progress
5 made in achieving the objective described in
6 subsection (a), and any changes to the strategy
7 since the date of the submission of the last re-
8 port.

9 (B) ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.— Such
10 reports shall include information on the amount
11 of funds expended in each country or program,
12 disaggregated by purpose of assistance, includ-
13 ing information on capital investments, and the
14 source of such funds by account.

15 (3) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term
16 “appropriate congressional committees” means—

17 (A) the Committee on International Rela-
18 tions and the Committee on Appropriations of
19 the House of Representatives; and

20 (B) the Committee on Foreign Relations
21 and the Committee on Appropriations of the
22 Senate.

23 **SEC. 7. MONITORING REQUIREMENT.**

24 The Secretary of State and the Administrator of the
25 United States Agency for International Development shall



1 monitor the implementation of assistance under section
2 135 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as added by
3 section 5(a) of this Act, to ensure that the assistance is
4 reaching its intended targets and meeting the intended
5 purposes of assistance.

6 **SEC. 8. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING DEVELOPMENT**
7 **OF LOCAL CAPACITY.**

8 It is the sense of Congress that the Secretary of State
9 should expand current programs and develop new pro-
10 grams, as necessary, to train local water and sanitation
11 managers and other officials of countries that receive as-
12 sistance under section 135 of the Foreign Assistance Act
13 of 1961, as added by section 5(a) of this Act.

14 **SEC. 9. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING ADDITIONAL**
15 **WATER AND SANITATION PROGRAMS.**

16 It is the sense of the Congress that—

17 (1) the United States should further support,
18 as appropriate, water and sanitation activities of
19 United Nations agencies, such as the United Na-
20 tions Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Na-
21 tions Development Programme (UNDP), and the
22 United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP);
23 and

24 (2) the Secretary of the Treasury should in-
25 struct each United States Executive Director at the



1 multilateral development banks (within the meaning
2 of section 1701(c) of the International Financial In-
3 stitutions Act) to encourage the inclusion of water
4 and sanitation programs as a critical element of
5 their development assistance.

6 **SEC. 10. REPORT REGARDING WATER FOR PEACE AND SE-**
7 **CURITY.**

8 (a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
9 gress that United States programs to support and encour-
10 age efforts around the world to develop river basin, aqui-
11 fer, and other watershed-wide mechanisms for governance
12 and cooperation are critical components of long-term
13 United States national security and should be expanded.

14 (b) REPORT.—The Secretary of State, in consultation
15 with the Administrator of the United States Agency for
16 International Development, shall submit to the Committee
17 on International Relations of the House of Representa-
18 tives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Sen-
19 ate a report on efforts that the United States is making
20 to support and promote programs that develop river basin,
21 aquifer, and other watershed-wide mechanisms for govern-
22 ance and cooperation.

23 **SEC. 11. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

24 (a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appro-
25 priated for fiscal year 2006 and each subsequent fiscal



1 year such sums as may be necessary to carry out this Act
2 and the amendments made by this Act.

3 (b) OTHER AMOUNTS.—Amounts appropriated pur-
4 suant to the authorization of appropriations in subsection
5 (a) shall be in addition to the amounts otherwise available
6 to carry out this Act and the amendments made by this
7 Act.

8 (c) AVAILABILITY.—Amounts appropriated pursuant
9 to the authorization of appropriations under section (a)
10 are authorized to remain available until expended.

